



Tempe Art in Private Development



Grove Parkway Office Building, Phase II

1150 W. Grove Parkway

Gary Dryzmala

Naka Ich, 1996

Steel

Description: Towering about 20 feet in height, this sculpture is a combination of ideas evolving from the Hopi Kachina and Tibetan Buddhism. The other world God entities of the Hopi are incorporated in the sculpture's emerging from the underworld to the higher level of "surface" existence, continuing into the ethereal "air" world. These ideas parallel the Buddhist idea of raising one's conscience to higher levels through "right" living. Both Hopi cosmology and Buddhism have been incorporated into the artist's work for many years.

Artist biography: Born in Tucson in 1951, Gary Dryzmala was greatly influenced by his mother's painter's eye for observing detail in nature, and his father's trade as a pipe welder/engineer. After studies in physics at the University of California, and architecture and fine arts at Arizona State University in the 1970's, Dryzmala settled in New Mexico where he has developed a successful career as sculpture artist specializing in welded steel. His constant endeavor as an artist is to transform rigid, lifeless materials into organic living forms by combining the physical with the intellectual. His concepts evolve from reading literature, observing nature, and studying the physical sciences. In creating forms, shapes, and a sensuousness that did not exist before, Dryzmala considers himself part artist and part alchemist. His works are found across the country in galleries and public art installations.

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